

BEFORE THE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

CASE NO. 1563
ORDER NO. 1712

IN THE MATTER OF A HEARING CALLED ON A
MOTION OF THE COMMISSION TO CONSIDER
HAVING THE OPERATORS IN THE FOLLOWING
FIELDS SHOW CAUSE THAT FIELD RULES
SHOULD NOT BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FOR
SURFACE CASING BEING SET NOT LESS THAN
FIFTY (50) FEET BELOW THE BASE OF THE FOX
HILLS FORMATION AND CEMENTED TO THE
SURFACE: ELKHORN RANCH, FRANKS CREEK,
FRYBURG, LITTLE KNIFE, MEDORA, AND ROCKY
RIDGE, ALL IN BILLINGS COUNTY, NORTH
DAKOTA; AMOR, ASH, CEDAR CREEK, COLD
TURKEY CREEK, COYOTE CREEK, GRAND RIVER,
HALEY, HORSE CREEK, LITTLE MISSOURI,
MEDICINE POLE HILLS, AND
STATE LINE, ALL IN BOWMAN COUNTY,
NORTH DAKOTA; HALLIDAY,
HAYSTACK BUTTE, KILLDEER, LITTLE
KNIFE, LOST BRIDGE, OAKDALE,
RATTLESNAKE POINT, RUSSIAN CREEK,
ALL IN DUNN COUNTY, NORTH
DAKOTA; RIDER AND SQUARE BUTTE IN
GOLDEN VALLEY COUNTY, NORTH
DAKOTA; ANTELOPE, BEAR DEN,
BICENTENNIAL, BLUE BUTTE, BOXCAR
BUTTE, CAMEL BUTTE, CHARLSON,
CLEAR CREEK, CROFF, DIMMICK
LAKE, EARL, HAWKEYE, KEENE,
LITTLE KNIFE, MONDAK, NORTH
FORK, PERSHING, POKER JIM, RED
WING CREEK, ROUGH RIDER, UNION
CENTER, AND YELLOWSTONE, ALL IN
MCKENZIE COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA;
AMIDON, ELEVEN BAR, AND ROCKY
RIDGE, ALL IN SLOPE COUNTY, NORTH
DAKOTA; BUFFALO CREEK, DICKINSON,
GREEN RIVER, ROCKY RIDGE, SOUTH
HEART AND ZENITH, ALL IN STARK
COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA.

ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

BY THE COMMISSION:

Pursuant to legal notice this cause came on for hearing at 9:00 a.m.
on the 20th day of June, 1978, in Bismarck, North Dakota, before the
Industrial Commission of North Dakota, hereinafter referred to as the
"Commission."

NOW, on this 25th day of July, 1978, the Commission, a quorum
being present, having considered the testimony adduced and the exhibits
received at said hearing, and being fully advised in the premises,

FINDS:

(1) That due public notice having been given as required by law, the

Commission has jurisdiction of this cause and the subject matter thereof.

(2) That in southwestern North Dakota, the Fox Hills Formation contains water of sufficient purity for domestic and livestock use.

(3) That oil and gas drilling operations might contaminate waters in the Fox Hills Formation, and procedures should be adopted in the drilling of all wells, development and wildcat, to protect said waters.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

(1) That Commission orders establishing special field rules in the following fields are hereby amended to provide for the setting of surface casing not less than fifty (50) feet below the base of the Fox Hills Formation:

Elkhorn Ranch, Franks Creek, Fryburg, Little Knife, Medora and Rocky Ridge, all in Billings County, North Dakota; Amor, Ash, Cedar Creek, Cold Turkey Creek, Coyote Creek, Grand River, Haley, Horse Creek, Little Missouri, Medicine Pole Hills, and State Line, all in Bowman County, North Dakota; Halliday, Haystack Butte, Killdeer, Little Knife, Lost Bridge, Oakdale, Rattlesnake Point, Russian Creek, all in Dunn County, North Dakota; Rider and Square Butte in Golden Valley County, North Dakota; Antelope, Bear Den, Bicentennial, Blue Butte, Boxcar Butte, Camel Butte, Charlson, Clear Creek, Croff, Dimmick Lake, Earl, Hawkeye, Keene, Little Knife, MonDak, North Fork, Pershing, Poker Jim, Red Wing Creek, Rough Rider, Union Center and Yellowstone, all in McKenzie County, North Dakota; Amidon, Eleven Bar and Rocky Ridge all in Slope County, North Dakota; Buffalo Creek, Dickinson, Green River, Rocky Ridge, South Heart and Zenith, all in Stark County, North Dakota. The State Geologist is hereby authorized to waive this requirement if deemed necessary.

(2) That all wildcat wells drilled in southwestern North Dakota shall set surface casing not less than fifty (50) feet below the base of the Fox Hills Formation.

(3) That this order shall continue in full force and effect until further order of the Commission.

DONE, in Bismarck, North Dakota, this 25th day of July, 1978.

THE NORTH DAKOTA
INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

/s/ Arthur A. Link
Arthur A. Link, Governor

/s/ Allen I. Olson
Allen I. Olson, Attorney General

/s/ Myron Just
Myron Just, Commissioner of Agriculture